

**REMARKS**

**35 USC 103 (A)**

Claims 13-15 and 22-28 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chung (US Patent 6,399,178) in view of Calhoun et al. (US Patent 5,275,856) and Wasulko (US Patent 5,049,434). The Applicant respectfully disagrees, especially in view of the amendments presented herein.

Claim 13 recites “a method for coupling an IC to a supporting surface comprising: providing an IC; providing a supporting surface to which the IC is to be mechanically and electrically bonded; providing a pre-form assembly comprising a base layer and a sacrificial assembly, the base layer comprising a thermosetting material or a thermoplastic material and wire or solder paste through conductors and the sacrificial assembly comprising a sacrificial layer and a release coating, wherein the release coating is located between the sacrificial layer and the base layer; applying the pre-form assembly to either the IC or supporting surface; removing at least part of the sacrificial assembly, wherein removal of at least part of the sacrificial assembly comprises destruction of the layer during the curing of the base layer; sandwiching the base layer between the IC and the supporting surface; and curing the base layer.”

None of the cited reference includes the provision that removal of at least part of the sacrificial assembly comprises destruction of the layer during the curing of the base layer; and therefore, claims 13-15 and claims 22-28 are patentable over the cited references.

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**REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE**

Claims 13-15 and 22-28 are pending in this application, and the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the claims in light of the arguments presented and allow the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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